

Express Mail No. EV 333 997 437 US

<b>AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116</b>  Address to: Mail Stop AF Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, VA 22313-1450	Attorney Docket Confirmation No.	BEAR004 6929
	First Named Inventor	Y. Kumagai
	Application Number	09/642,609
	Filing Date	August 17, 2000
	Group Art Unit	1653
	Examiner Name	A.A. Mohamed
	Title	<i>Methods and compositions for reducing serum phosphate levels</i>

Sir:

This amendment is responsive to the final Office Action dated January 16, 2004 for which a three-month period for response was given, making this response due on or before April 16, 2004. ***A Petition for a Two-Month Extension of Time is submitted herewith, making this amendment due on or before June 19, 2004.*** Accordingly, this response is timely filed.

Applicants submit that the amendments set forth below raise no new issues. Rather, the amendments place the claims in form for allowance or in better form for appeal. Entry of these amendments is thus respectfully requested.

In view of the remarks put forth below, reconsideration and allowance are respectfully requested.